

## SRI LANKA LECTURE SERIES

# Gender, Nation and Diaspora: Post-Conflict Sri Lankan Women's Writing

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**Abstract:** This talk examines the new wave of Sri Lankan women's writing in English that began to emerge shortly after the violent suppression of the ethnic conflict in 2009. Arguing that the very immediacy of the event enables these writers to account for Sri Lanka's recent past in ways that are significantly different to that of their literary predecessors, the talk seeks to investigate how the current wave of – mostly diasporic – women's writing recasts the country's historical-ethnic divisions from an entirely new set of personal, political and cultural sensibilities. In particular, by exploring how their female protagonists experience war, belonging, migration and exile, these writers draw attention to the gender dimension of Sri Lanka's conflict that unfolds deep within the masculine discourses of nation building.

**Date:** Tuesday, 28.06.2016

**Venue:** SAI, Cafeteria

**Time:** 4 pm / 16 Uhr c.t.

All interested persons are cordially invited!